QA-194
18 Water Street
Centreville
Private

early 19th century

This small frame building on Water Street is a rare example of a combined shop and dwelling, exhibiting a plan form that may have once been relatively common, but has all but disappeared in Tidewater Maryland. The shop consisted of a single unheated room facing the street on the main floor, while the rear of the main floor and both the second floor and cellar were used as a dwelling.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

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OWNER OF PROPI	ERTY				
NAME					
Allan L. Goldst	ein		Telephon	e #:	
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P.O. Box 328		a.			
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REPRESENTATIO	N IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS			
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CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

__EXCELLENT X_GOOD

__FAIR

__DETERIORATED
__RUINS
__UNEXPOSED

__UNALTERED

X_ORIGINAL SITE
__MOVED DATE_____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This small, frame house is located on the north side of Water Street just east of Liberty Street. It is one-and-one-half stories high, with a gable roof and a large, flush brick chimney centered on the north gable. The south gable facade faces the street, and the house has two entrances, one centered on the street gable, the other on the east facade, facing a small side yard. Both the interior plan and the exterior fenestration suggest that this building was originally used as a combination store or office and dwelling. The store was located in the front room, and was entered through the gable door facing the street, while the rear of the house, the cellar, and the second floor all served as living quarters.

Although the general form of the house has changed very little, a number of details have been altered, as illustrated by comparing the present house with a photograph published in the Centreville Observer on June 20, 1914. In that photograph, the house has a single six-panel door in the center of the gable facing Water Street, with a six-over-six window in the upper gable.

7.1 DESCRIPTION

The door on the east facade is covered by a small shed roof addition that extends across the northern two bays of that facade. The windows in the two southern bays are left exposed, and are six-over-six sash.

There are two gable roof dormers on the east facade.

These have matching louvered shutters, which are closed, but probably conceal six-over-six windows. The siding is plain horizontal weatherboarding, the rakeboards are not tapered. The box cornice has a simple crown mold that returns across the soffit of the cornice at the gable.

Several alterations have occurred since this photograph was taken. The original six-panel door in the gable has been replaced with a 20th century paneled door. Large six-over-six windows have been cut in on either side of the door, and two-over-two sash has replaced the six-over-six in the upper gable and on the east facade, the dormers now have shed roofs, and one-over-one sash. Shingle siding had been nailed over the horizontal siding, but this was recently removed by the present owner. The shed roof addition which covered the east door has also recently been removed, leaving a smaller addition that projects

7.2 DESCRIPTION

from the north bay of the east facade. The original exterior six-panel door with a four-light transom remains intact on the east facade, where it was protected by the later addition.

There is one large six-over-six window on the rear gable to the right of the chimney, and two two-over-two windows on the west facade. These are placed in the north and south bays, with the two center bays omitted.

The interior was probably originally divided into two rooms, much like a hall-parlour house except that the south room had a gable entrance and served a commercial purpose. The first floor living space apparently consisted of a single room, with a large fireplace projecting into the room on the north wall, and a narrow enclosed stair rising from the southeast corner of the room along the interior partition wall.

This room has subsequently been divided into three rooms, and the fireplace has been boxed in and covered. The stair has been removed, and replaced by a folding ladder-stair in the front room. No evidence remains on the first floor of the original trim and interior finish:

7.3 DESCRIPTION

The second floor is divided into two rooms by a vertical beaded board partition, directly above the first floor partition. The stair was located in the southeast corner of the north room, which was heated by a small fireplace that has subsequently been bricked up. A single beaded baseboard remains in both rooms, and there is a very nice chairrail on the south wall of the south room. The baseboard in the north room has never been painted.

The cellar is reached through a bulkhead entrance to the left of the door on the east facade. It was originally divided into two rooms by a vertical board partition directly below the first floor partition. This wall has been removed, but four vertical posts remain, and the nails that secured the boards to the ceiling joist are still visible. The two center posts framed a door, and have beaded edges around the door opening. Iron pintels remain on one door jamb.

There is a fireplace in the north room, with an arched opening supported by an iron lintel. Evidently this room served as a kitchen, as there is an iron trammel bar across the chimney throat behind and above the arch.

7.4 DESCRIPTION

The floor joists and the bottom face of the flooring is whitewashed, indicating it was originally exposed. Several pieces of hand split lathing remain in the northeast corner of the north room, nailed to the floorboards rather than the joists. There are several cellar window openings that have been bricked up, and based on these it would appear that the exterior ground level has risen one to two feet since the house was built.

PREHISTORICARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORICCOMMUNITY PLANNINGLANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURERELIGION1400-1499ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORICCONSERVATIONLAWSCIENCE1500-1599AGRICULTUREECONOMICSLITERATURESCULPTURE	
1700-1799ARTENGINEERINGMUSICTHEATER	X 1900COMMUNICATIONSINDUSTRYPOLITICS/GOVERNMENTOTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This small building on Water Street is a rare example of a combined shop and dwelling, dating to the second quarter of the 19th century. The shop consisted of a single room facing the street on the main floor, while the rear of the main floor and both the cellar and the second floor were used as a dwelling. One early newspaper article suggests that there were once two more buildings on Water Street identical to this one, but these have disappeared, leaving No. 18 as the only recorded example.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Centreville Observer June 20, 1914.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET	r if necessary	
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA		
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Orlando Ridout V, Histo	oric Sites Surveyor	
ORGANIZATION		
Oueen Anne's County His	storical Society	
STREET & NUMBER		TELEPHONE
Centreville		Har Arana
Orlando Ridout V, Histo ORGANIZATION Oueen Anne's County His		DATE 7/28/78 TELEPHONE STATE Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust

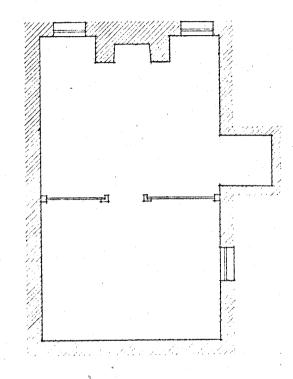
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

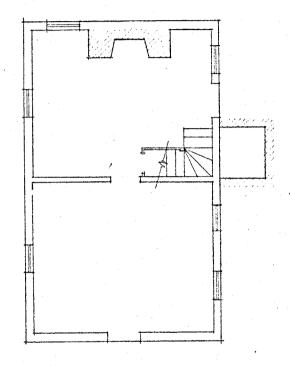
(301) 267-1438

Addenda, November 30, 1980.

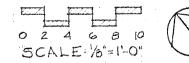
This building was purchased by William Grovermann in the summer of 1980. In October 1980 the roof was stripped of shingles and sheathing, repaired, and recovered. In the process of making this repair, numerous nails were exposed that had previously been concealed. The roof rafters were found to be secured to the plates with large hand wrought spikes. Doublestruck, hand-headed machine nails were used throughout the roof as framing nails. This reinforces documentary evidence which conflicted with the proposed date of circa 1820-40 for this building. A further search of documentary sources should yield a more precise date, probably in the period circa 1800-1820.



CELLAR PLAN



RESTORED FIRST FLOOR PLAN



ORLANDO RIDOUT V

QA - 194

18 WATER STREET CENTREVILLE, MARYLAND

MAY 18, 1978.



Mary McCarthy Spring/Summer 2003 Digital color photo on file at MHT







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